THE TRUE EUGENE ARAM. THE STORY OF THE FAMOUR

In Early Life and Education-How He Comitted the Murder-Discovery After Years-Houseman's Part in the trime and in Conricting Aram...The Original of Hulwer's Tale From the Nineteenth Century, by permission of the

Leonard Scott Publication Company, Eugene Aram was born at Notherdale in Yorkshire in the year 1704. His father was a garlener, but a gardener of more than ordinary skill; he possessed a remarkable knowledge of botany, and was an excellent draughtsman. He had originally been in the service of Dr. Compson, the Bishop of London famous for his resistance to James II., and, on leaving the Bishop, had gone into the service of Sir Edward Blackett at Newby in Yorkshire. Yorkshire was the native county of the Arams, Their name they derived from the village of Aram, or Haram, on the south bank of the Tees. In the reign of Edward III. the family was possessed of three knights' fees near Newark. They would seem to have gradually gone further south, until one Aram is found a professor of divinity at Oxford; another, shom Engene saw, a Commissioner of the Salt Tax under Queen Anne, living at his seat in Hertfordshire. The branch to which Eugene polenged, and which had apparently remained in Yorkshire, must have fallen from the high state of their ancestors, or had never emerged Who the others from their original obscurity. The first is the more likely supposition; for murene "Aram, though driven by circumstances to associate with the shopkeepers and ale drapers of Yorkshire villages, was always feared and respected as a very high, proud man, solitary and retiring. His portrait, too, in the Newpate Calendar, said by those who have seen him to be a very accurate likeness, shows a face in which there is little trace of the rough and homely; and throughout his life he seems to have attracted ford and confidence of those whose stations in life were above his own.

Eugene's father had bought a little house at Bondgate, near Ripon, in which he installed his wife and child, visiting them in his intervals of elsure. Here Eugene was sent to school and instructed in the Testament. At the age of 14 he joined his father at Newby, and, with the help of Sir Edward Blackett, who seems to have been attracted by his intelligence and zeal for study, entered upon that career of intense and unwearled application to various branches of learning on which rests his real claim to honorable recognition, and which only the misfortune of circumstance has rendered fruitless of a great result. He first applied himself to mathematics, and, self-taught, mastered the problems of the higher algebra. But his studies were interrupted at the age of 16 by his being sent to London to fill the place of bookkeeper. After remaining two years in the counting house Aram was attacked by a very severe form of smallpox, and, giving up the counting house, returned home. Here the young man resumed his mathematical studies, and at the same time dived into poetry, history, and antiquities. But these new mistresses quite seduced him from his boyish love; poor mathematics were cruelly de-"the charms of the other three," he writes, "quite destroyed all the heavier beaurice of numbers and lines whose applications and properties I now pursued no longer." As the time had come when Eugene must choose a profession, he settled upon that of schoolmaster. He returned to Netherdale, his birthplace, and there engaged himself as teacher in the village school. At Netherdale, according le Aram, he committed the first great error of his life, took the first unfortunate step which started him on his progress to the gibbet-he Of his wife's family nothing is known, except

that Aram thought her very much beneath him, shunned her in the street, and never spoke to her in public. Those who remembered her described her as a tidy little body, a very weak, soft kind of woman, to whom Aram made an adifferent husband, a kind of woman who can hardly have affected the destiny of Aram so powerfully as he subsequently asked his friends to believe. One friend, more indiscreet and reckless than the rest, speaks of Mrs. Aram as low, in, and vulgar, unworthy the lofty intellect of her husband, for whom a Newton and Erasmus could alone have been worthy companions. But we shall see that the sublime visionary could bop at times-and for purposes of his own-to coclety that would have been very distasteful to Newton or Erasmus, and far lower and meaner than that of his vulgar wife. But when we are confronted with the high pride of the profound and solitary scholar shocked and wounded by the yulgarity of the tidy little body, we must make very sure that the high pride is not setfish vanity, and the domestic picture sented the canting old story of the great man ppy and unapp

early married life, Aram's zeal for learning was increased tenfold. A consciousness of his de-

people of Knaresborough as equal to any villainy. When, at the beginning of 1744, a Jew peddler boy who travelled with jewelry in the neighborhood disappeared, report said that Houseman and Daniel Clarke had murdered him. That may or may not have been; but certain it is that about this time Houseman and Clarke had hit on a very much more profitable form of enterprise than murdering a peddler boy for a few trumpery provincial trinkets. The new scheme was no rough and ready highway murder, such as might spring from the brain of the flax-dresser or the sheemaker; it was a subtle and ingenious fraud, and argues the presence of a superior intellect in the councils of the criminals. This was the scheme: Clarke had married a wife who was possessed of a fortune of £200; the money remained for the present in the hands of her relatives, who seem to have been unwilling to give it up until they were satisfied that Clarke was a man of some substance, and not an impecuni-ous person who would spend his wife's fortune as soon as she got it. Clarke and his advisers saw in this reluctance of the relatives to part with the fortune a means of securing not only the £200, but a substantial sum of money in addition to it. On the strength of his wife's reputed fortune on the one hand, and to impress he reluctant relatives on the other with an idea of his substance, Clarke was to order from various tradesmen plate, linen, jewelry, watches, rings, and other articles. On the strength of these extensive purchases, which would argue substantial means, the relatives would part with the money. As soon as Clarke would part with the money. As soon as Clarke had the money and the unpaid goods on his hands, he was to disappear with his share of the booty, leaving the rest in the hands of his confederates. The guilt of the fraud would thus attach to Clarke alone, who would be safe away, while his accomplices would wait a convenient time to realize their shares of the profit. This plan, excellent in itself, is only imperfect as regards Clarke, who is condemned thereby to a perpetual exile, while his friends remain at home rejoicing. However, he appears to have been weak enough to accept it, and to have been propared to say good-by to Knaresborough forever.

perpetual exile, while his friends remain at home rejoicing. However, he appears to have been weak enough to accept it, and to have been prepared to say good-by to Knaresborough forever.

Such was the main plot; but there was an under-plot also, in which Daniel Clarke's part called for an even streater sacrifice and a more compendious farewell. As soon as the fraud was accomplished, the booty in Clarke's hands, Houseman and the third party, the latest recruit in the rascality of Knaresborough, were to murder the shoemaker and share among two instead of three Mrs. Clarke's money and the unpaid articles. The disappearance of Clarke and his property would favor with the public the idea that he had absconded, and so divert suspicion from his murderers! Richard Houseman and Eugene Aram! For it was the schoolmaster who had joined the flax-dresser and the shoemaker in their latest venture, and, with his neighbor Houseman, was to remove Daniel Clarke out of harm's way. Somehow or other—in what exact manner it is impossible to say—the studious recluse had drifted into an alliance with the nurderous-looking shop-keeper next door, and had become sufficiently intimate with him to engage in the darkest of his designs. Aram had made Clarke's acquaintance in his love of botany; Clarke was a skilled florist, and he and Aram spent many delightful hours in scaring away cats from the schoolmaster's garden. In these hours it may have been that Aram learned something of his companion's projects, and was perhaps through him introduced to Houseman. Himself under the schoolmaster's garden, In these hours it may have been that Aram learned something of his companion's projects, and was perhaps through him introduced to Houseman. Himself under the schoolmaster's garden, in the perfection of an intelligent plan, built up murder on robbery. "Mankind is never corrupted at once; villeiny is progressive and declines from right, step by step, till every regard of probity is lost and every sense of all moral obligation perishes."

Thus spake E

No guilt that troubles and no heart that aches, have prompted him to preserve his reputation among men by vilitying the reputation of a woman whom to the very last he treated with dislike and contempt!

The best apology offered on Aram's behalf comes from an admirer who, comparing him with Houseman, exclaims: "How much greater the temptation to murder to a man like Aram, with a misorable wife and six children, than to a wretch like Houseman, who could carry all his wretch like Houseman, who could carry all his amily under his hat!" (alluding to the large aven). There is a greater semblance of truth a this excuse than in the plea of the faithless wife.

who is unhappy and unappreciated at home.

Whatever the Joys or disappointments of his
sariy married life, Aram's zeal for learning was
parasased titled. A consciousness of his side
surplements of the saries of t

in meeting his Habilities at Knaresborough. On leaving Mr. Painblanc, Aram went to a shoot as Hayes, where he was engaged as the story of four years, after which he apent short periods at various other schools in the south of England, returning finally to London. His circumstances at this time can have been far from prospectus, for on this second visit to London we find him earning money bit the London we find him earning money bit in Changery. Ultimately he got an engagement as tabler at the free grammar school of Lynn in Nerfolk, where, at the end of seven months, he was arrested for the crime he had committed fourteen years before. It is this period, between the mirder and his election as a ported of remores and mental agony, made more polgnant and terrible by the added distresses of a great passion. Of the latter no trace is to be found except in the scandalous whispers of Lynn that accuse the usher of living there with a young lady he described as listory of the health of the scandalous whispers of Lynn that accuse the usher of living there with a young lady he described as listory and the sever-faithful and devoted daughter Sally, who accompanied him through all his wan to be companied to have been his mistress. Scalcherd, the rhapsodical apologist already alluded to, indignantly, repudiates this anecdote, and reduce it by declaring that the pseudo nicee was no other than his ever-faithful and devoted daughter Sally, who accompanied him through all his wan derings he is silent as to his duuciter's companionship; indeed, the story of his nicee at who remember his arrest and his arrival at Knaresborough say nothing of any companion. Aram was a man of 40 when he left Knaresborough, 54 at the time of his execution.

On the remover of the story of the Aram of "The Dream" history is allent. Such Aram of who remember his arrest and his arrival at Knaresborough apprison of the same history and the such and the such of the same history and the such at his necessary and the such and the such and the such and the su

rentry.

He was stopping one day with a Dr. Weather

He was stopping one day with a Dr. Weatherhead, a parson living near Lynn. It was a winter's morning; but Aram, always devoted to plants and flowers, was out in the garden helping the doctor with his flower beds. While they were engaged in this occupation a horse dealer called to see the doctor, who was anxious to sell a horse. The dealer happened to come from Yorkshire, and, as he was talking over the bargain with the parson, he caught sight of the figure of Aram working in the garden. He immediately recognized him and told the doctor that he knew his friend. The horse dealer, his business completed, returned to Yorkshire, and was able to tell his customers at Knaresborough the whereabouts of Eugene Aram. For the moment the information was interesting; in a month or two it became useful. Early in the year 1758 a laborer, digging stone at Thistie Hill, near Knaresborough, came across a human skeleton. The people of Knaresborough with one voice declared that these must be the bones of Daniel Clarke. Mrs. Aram had already dropped some hints as to the fate of Clarke; now, at the Coroner's inquest on the newly found skeleton, she told her story of the night of the murder. Houseman was apprehended on her evidence and confronted with the bones. The Coroner, seeing him pale and trembling with fear, bade him take up a bone. Houseman obeyed, but, to the general astonishment, declared that the bone was no more Daniel Clarke's than it was his. Asked to explain himself, he said that Eugene Aram had murdered Clarke, whose bones were not those found on

iel Clarke's than it was his. Asked for explain himself, he said that Eugene Aram had murdered Clarke, whose bones were not those found on Thistie Hill, but were lying buried in St. Robert's cave. There the skeleton of Clarke was unearthed, according to Houseman's indication. Furnished with the horse dealer's information, now valuable indeed, Barker and Moore, two Kaneesborouch constables, set out for Lynn disgarders.

Arrived at Lynn the dealers.

Arrived at Lynn the dealers.

Arrived at Lynn the dealers.

Arrived at Lynn the same person. Aram was standing in a corner of the playground when he was apprehended, handcuffed, and, amidst the tears of his pupils, driven off in a chaise to Knaresborough with his twocaptors. It will be seen from this that he did not walk between the two stern-faced men, whose proceedings are so graphically described in Hood's poem.

Hisarrival at Knaresborough had been eagerly awaited. As he stepped from the chaise at the door of the field in a the rustic crowd observed with admiration his genteel suit of clothes and they did not be a suit of the same the force since the Eugene Aram had been cannot be a cry different them. Impecunious schoolmater who had left them impecunions schoolmater who had left

fieve from his previous cores. did make that he ness of the defence which he did make that he was so childlike as to have been unable to offer a refutation of the case against him if it had been in his power to do so. His defence as it stands, admirable in the modesty of its expression and the ingenuity of its arguments, is absolutely unconvincing. It consists entirely of an attempt to show that the bones of Clarks might be the

bones of some long-buried hermit, and he cites a number of instances in which such bones have been found in a similar state of preservation. In spite of a much longer interment than fourteen years. He dwells, too, with becoming diffidence on his irreproachable character and reputation, and the improbability of a man of such conduct suddenly, without any previous experience in crime, committing a horrid murder. In this argument Eugene Aram touches the very trystery of his own career. He has offered a solution of this auden impulse to crime by accusing his wife of infidelity; we have already commented on the dubious character of that explanation. At the last let Eugene Aram speak for himself. Convicted and condemned todeash, he attempted suicide in York Castle the night before his execution. Before opening the veries of his arm, with a razor he had concealed for the purnose, he wrote:

What am I better than my fathers? To die is metural and necessary. Perfectly sensible of this, I fear until the contract of the country turns its eyes away from the capital under the belief that there is nothing "going on" in Washington. But, on the contrary, in a business sense, it is the period of the greatest annual activity in everything that pertains to

neal and necessary. Perfectly sensible of this, I fear no more to die than I did to be born. But the manner of it is something which should, in my opinon, be decent and manly. I think I have regarded both three cent and manly. I think I have regarded both these points. Certainly nobody has a better right to dispose of a man's life than himself; and be, not others, should determine how. As to any indignities offered to my body, or silly reflections on my faith and morals, they are (as they always were) things indifferent to me. I think, though contrary to the common way of thinking; I wrong no man by this, and hope it is not offensive to that eternal Being that formed me and the world; and as by this I injure no formed me and the world; and as by this I injure no man, no man can be reasonably offended. I solicit-ously recommend myself to that eternal and al-mighty fieling, the God of nature, if I have done amies. But perhaps I have not, and I hope this thing will never be imputed to me. Though I am now stained by malevolence and suffer by prejudice, I hope to rise fair and unblemished. My life was not polluted, my morals irreproachable, and my opinions orthodex. Isl pt sound till 3 o'clock, awaked, and then writ these lines;

orthodex. I sl-pt sound till 8 o'clook, awaked, and then writ these lines;

Come, pleasing reat, eternal slumbers fall, seal mine, that once must seal the eyes of all;
Cam and composed, my soul her Journey takes,
No guilt that treubles and no heart that sches.
Adleu! thou sun, all bright like her arise.
Adleu! fair friends, and all that's good and wise.
Are these lines the dignified forewell of a martyred philosopher or the egotistical exit of a criminal posing as martyr and philopher! Over Aranu's farewell one can exclaim with Joseph Surface, "Ah, my dear sir, 'tis this very conscious imocenne that is of the greatest prejudice to you." One would be so grateful for just some little acknowledgment of hunan weakness from this consciously irreproachable assassin.

Was Eugene Aram a well-intentioned man? That would be the most instructive question to resolve. We are inclined to answer it in the negative; but it is difficult to give a decided verdict on such an issue in the presence of merely oral testimony. All we can say with absolute certainty is that he murdered Daniel Clarke and discovered a European affinity in Celtic roots. For the latter achievement he is entitled to rank with scholars as well as murderers; for the former he was hanged at York, half faining from his attempt at suicide which had been happily, or unhappily, frustrated, and his body hung in chains near k naresborough. One of his daughters. Bettly, described as a "wild girl" saw the corpse swinging in its chains on Thistle Hill and gleefully ran to tell her mother that she had seen her father hanging up on the hill; the sight seemed to give her satisfaction.

Houseman withdrew with his raven from his native village, loathed and dejected, his windows smashed by old pupils of Aram's, and died at a place called Marton.

Mrs. Aram kept a pie and sausage shop in Knaresborough, and pieked up her husband's bones as they fell from the gibbet.

ENGLAND'S POWER.

Frenchman's View of It in Past and Puture In the August number of that bright little Franco-Irish monthly, L'Irlande Libre, there is among other interesting things, an article by M. Maurice Lacy on the secret of British power. With that extreme lucidity which seems to be long exclusively to the French language, M. Lacy deals with facts and figures, and, without any attempt at embellishment, frames them in good old horse sense. "Whatever the events," he says, "that led up

to the loss of India and Canada to France, they were all subordinated to the condition sine quo non of maritime supremacy. The English fleet by winning the battle of Trafalgar, destroyed the last obstacle to the colonial expansion of Great Britian, because all the lines of communication with territories outside of Europe re mained thereafter in English hands. It was not by superiority of race, it was simply by the chance of circumstances, that the victories of Nelson were more fruitful for Great Britain than were the profigious conquests of Napo leon for France. The starting point, therefore for the recent English glorifications must be sought for in 1805. A careful analysis and a ogical sifting of the causes of British colonial expansion would present an interesting study In the first place, it was not the Angle-Saxons who played the leading part in British expeditions. In America, in Australia, and in New Zealand it was the Irish and Scotch who wor the prizes for England. In Canada the French

the prizes for England. In Canada the French and their descendants are stronger than the Anglo-Saxons; and in the Cape and all South Africa the development of the colonies is the work of the Dutch and the Boers.

"Now, after all, the Hirlish method of colonizing shows no superfority in the Anglo-Saxon face, and certainly the way in which English possessions are governed does not display any extraordinary administrative talent on the part of English statesmen. They lost America by their repacity and incapacity. In Canada, often in rebellion, they have been obliged to yield to

their rapacity and incapacity. In Cauada, often in rebellion, they have been obliged to yield to all the demands of the dissatisfied. The relations between Australia and England were marked in times past by bloody episodes, and Australia is virtually independent to-day. As for India, it cannot be looked upon as a colony. It is a country occupied by a standing army, for the exploitation of its products. Ircland is still disaffected and hostile, while in France La Vendée is prosperous and contented.

"In a word, an examination shows that great discoveries, great achievements in colonization, and great examples of good administration cannot be placed to the credit of the Anglo-Saxons.

"But if the secret of the success of England is not to be sought for beyond the line of her naval supremacy and the commercial and other consequences of that supremacy, always necessary for a great colonial policy, is nothing more than a condition among others of equal importance. The centralforce of England has not been developed in accordance with that of her territories. Each one of her possessions marks a point of irritating contact with some neighboring country. England has not enough scamen for her warships, and her army is utterly insufficient to hold her conquests.

"Let us examine the position. Australia will never be of any benefit, except for Australia, India is, bound to be the prey of Russia whenever that empire decides to move her troops for the conquest; and at the preyent time India immobilizes a considerable portion of the English army. The preservation of India and of the west coast of Africa depends upon the employment of native and Mussulman troops that may any day become a cause for danger. The possession of Gibraltar is a constant affront to Spain. The oppression of Ireland requires 40,000 soldiers, and, in case of war, it would need 100,000 file for a preservation of Ireland requires 0,000 soldiers, and, in case of war, it would need 100,000 file for the Dutch and the English forces, which would require 100,00

Prairie Dogs Bury a Snake.

From Forest and Stream. In conversation with a gentleman who has just made a trip through western Indian Territory yesterday I picked up something new and interesting to me in regard to the habits of the prairie dog and rattlesnake. This party said that a few weeks ago, while resting under a small tree in the Territory where there was a dog town, he noticed a commotion among some dogs near him; they would run up to a place and people as small tree in the Territory where there was a dog town, he noticed a commotion among some dogs near him; they would run up to a place and people something and then scamper off. I doking to see what was the matter, he saw that there were about fifteen to twenty dogs around a rattlessake, which at length went into one of the dog holes. As soon as he had disappeared the little fellows beran to push in dirt, evidently to fill the hole up, but about the time they got enough dirt to cover the entrance the snake slowly his head up through the dirt and every dog scampered off to a safe distance, all the time keeping up an incessant barking. The snake slowly grawled to another hole about a rod distant and went in, and then up came the dogs again and went to work to push dirt up before them to the hole. This time they succeeded in their enterprise and completely covered the cutrance to the hole, and then went to work, using their noses to tamp with and pounding the dirt down hard, after which they went away. My friend went to the place and said he was surprised to find they had packed the dirt in solid with their noses, having scaled the snake well to the ground.

Died Waiting for the Gallows.

From the San Francisco Chronicle.

The ends of justice were again defeated yesterday morning, this time by death itself, and the halter that has for over three years waited for William Leary, the murderer, will not be used. Leary, a convict 77 years of age, was to have been hanged nearly three years age, but through the delays and hindrances of California laws, stays have been granted him from time to time, and it has been often hoped by his friends that a natural death would overtake him rather than that he might step out of the world through the trap of the gallows. Death was caused by extreme old age. From the San Francisco Chronicle.

annual activity in everything that pertains to keeping the machinery of government in efficient

condition.

It is quiet work on many deaks in the executive departments, but it is the fundamental labor upon which rests each annual advance in national growth. The year's reports, now pour ing in from every quarter, tell not only of what has been accomplished in every branch of na tional affairs, great and small, but what, in the pinion of those in charge both of great things and of the multitudinous small things which enter into the public affairs of seventy millions of people, will be needed to insure this might population proper facilities for promoting its growth.

When Congress is in session, and especially when it is in extra session at the opening of an Administration, the machinery of government is practically paralyzed. The departments are overrun with the 450 errand boys of that state messenger service known also as Congress Great as is the departmental force, it is far from sufficient to answer the questions and hear the demands of this most active and persisten body. All public business waits upon this, and every grade of public servant, from the Presi lent and Cabinet Ministers to appointment clerks, gives well nigh undivided attention to its nquiries and demands. But the moment Congress goes and quiet is restored, and the days et in when there are no outward signs of ac tivity in public affairs, then the real business of he country begins to receive proper attention.

And when the President goes also, the situation is still further vastly improved, since the facilities for uninterrupted business are largely increased. A good President should be much absent, not only that well-carned rest may conserve his powers for the public good, but that his absence may disperse the crowds which im-pede public business, while an indifferent President cannot take too much rest. The moment the President can leave, after his Administration is fairly launched, the better for the country. The crowds vanish, quiet settles over the lepartments, and the machinery of government begins to perform important work. And in these modern days a President can give prompt direction to all things over the wires.

If there were nothing in progress here but the

very important consideration of the questions re-lating to the free gift by our Government of transcontinental freight facilities to the Dominion of Canada, so clearly set forth a few days since by the regular correspondent of THE SUN, the country might well turn its eyes in this direction. It is altogether natural that an Adminis. tration which marches under the banner of protection to American labor, American manufactures, and American markets should have in mind the proper protection of our American railway system. The atten-tion which the Department of Justice is giving to the question, in the shape in which it has been presented and partially decided, covers only one branch of it. But it will serve to open wide discussion in executive quarters, and, before it closes, it must embrace the whole subject of interstate carrying trade

whole subject of interstate carrying trade through Canada. On its face it is not a sensational matter, but in its ramifications it takes rank with questions of boundary, and gold fields, and fortifications which look out only upon the United States. The first step of the Department of Justice has stirred up all interests involved, and lively discussions are assured.

Among the great questions, vital to secure national growth, which are receiving practical and energetic consideration in these quiet Washington days, is that of coast defence.

The country may well feel immense satisfaction at the condition and progress of this vital work. The fact that it has reached a stare where the public of every class is rigidly excluded at all points where it is in progress is one whose significance will not be overlooked, and will be especially noted by foreign nations, whose officers, up to a recent period, have been almost as free to inspect the works in progress as our officers who were engaged in the construction. The order issued in this case at the instance of Gen. Wilson, Chief of Engineers, is of the most radical character. The Secretary of War, recognizing its importance, in promulgating it directed the commanding Generals of departments to see that hereafter permission to visit the works in question on coast or lakes should only be given for proper military reasons. Hehind the impenetrable screens thus drawn the most important material work that the nation has in hand is rapidly and vigorously progressing.

There has been so much wholesome and plain-

There has been so much wholesome and plain-spoken criticism of the lack of defence for our most important harbors as to create the im-pression that all of them would be helpless in the face of sudden foreign attack. Four years the face of sudden foreign attack. Four years ago there was far too much reason in these declarations, and in the fears which they aroused. But the situation has been rapidly changing. The great gams, for building which years were necessary, where months once served to produce the heavy gams of the day, are now coming to hand with frequency and regularity. So of the enormous disappearing carriages for the modern guns. So also of the preparation of the emplacements which they require. The result is that, with a speed which is now apparent, all the parts of these modern wonders of defence are being assembled, and are already effective at more points than the country is informed about.

The details cannot and should not reach the public. But it will doubtless be a not reach the

about.

The details cannot and should not reach the public. But it will doubtless be a matter of surprise to many to learn that vigorous work is in progress upon the entire scheme of coast defence which was adopted years ago. At every one of the points named below the work in progress is in most satisfactory condition, and at many an enemy's fleet, no matter who that enemy might be, would encounter greetings which would prove surprising. This satisfactory condition arises from the element to which aliusion has been made, that after the long and necessary time needed to produce the various parts of modern defences, the assembling of those parts admits of quicker movement.

This great work is in various stages of commendable progress at Portland, Portsmouth Hoston, Newport, the castern entrances to Long Island Sound, the lumediate entrances to that city from the sea, Delaware Bay, Baltimore, the Potomac River, Hampton Hoads, Wilmington, N. C.; Charleston, Savannah, Key West, Pensacola, Mobile, New Orleans, Gallyeston, San Diego, Cal.; San Francisco, the mouth of the Columbia River, and Puget Sound. At every one of these points, the comprehensive plan, deemed ample by our most skilled engineers for successful defence, is being pushed forward as fast as the somewhat limited appropriations will allow. Considering the condition of the Treasury, Congress has been fairly liberal. The total has been distributed among these various points with proper regard to their relative importance, and in a manner to secure marked advance at every point.

It is certain that the annual reports of what has been accountlished with propers of the secure marked advance at every point.

ivery point.

It is certain that the annual reports of what



A gentleman who delights in the game of whist and believes in playing it quietly and making it somewhat a matter of business, recently, while visiting a sister one evening, took a hand in a family game, and had for his partner the said sister, who is his very opposite in temperament and enjoys cracking jokes and making pert speeches. As the game wore on the brother became irascible and almost exasperated by her continued laughter and light talk. He called out emphatically at last, "Come, pay attention to the game, don't laugh so much;" and she answered, "What you want is a Ripans Tabule; take one and you can laugh, too." She thereupon took out of her pocket a vial of the Tabules and gave him one, which he swallowed as a sort of penance for his petulance. A few weeks after a friend who had been present at the card party, meeting him on the street, asked, after the usual greeting, "How about the Ripans?" His answer was, "First rate" and then he said seriously, "That Tabule was swallowed as a joke, perhaps, but Ripans Tabules and I have become friends. I perceived a benefit from that one, so I bought some and have continued their use. They have garnished me from top to bottom. I guess I don't talk and laugh as much as Amelia does, but I laugh more than I used and feel in better spirits all the time."

A new style packet containing the strans tabular in a paper carton (without glass) is now for sale at some drug storce—FOR FIVE CENTS. This low-proced sort is intended for the poor and the economical. One dozen of the five-cent cartons (190 tabules) can be had by mail by sending forty-eight cents to the HIPASS CHEMICAL COMPANY, No. 10 Spruce Street, New York—or a single carton (TEN TABULES) will be sent for five cents.

their constituents. They have not fully comprehended the fact that, in a most important sense, their constituents were within point-black range of any enemy's fleet that might succeed in controlling the principal Eastern harbors. They are now amenable to the arguments which rest upon the supposition that the trade andfinancial exchanges of New York city alone should be suspended even for a short interval by the successes of a foreign fleet. And so, for these, and from the higher patriotic motives, the promise of liberality on the part of Congress, rising to the full proportion of the increased revenues which are now regarded as certain, is believed to be excellent.

The forthcoming annual reports will doubtless set forth some very satisfactory features for the Committees on Appropriations relating to the decreased cost of every branch of necessary expenditure for coast defence. Both the cost and the time of manufacture have been decreased to an extent that reflects great credit upon all engaged in developing the project. This decrease in the engineering branch is at least 10 per cent.

There is a paragraph in the orders from the

rease in the engineering branch is at teaching per cent.

There is a paragraph in the orders from the headquarters of the army closing all works of defence from the public that it is believed will have a wider application than appears on the face of it. Says this order: Neither written nor pictorial descriptions of these works will be made for publication without the authority of the Secretary of War, nor will any information be given concerning them which is not contained in the printed reports and documents of the Warfbeparament.

mation be given concerning them which is not contained in the printed reports and documents of the Warfbeparyment.

Of what use will it be to close the works if the annual reports give both drawings and detailed descriptions of progress? The question answers itself, and suggests a change in policy which is likely to be followed. Up to this time annual reports have been painfully specific as to the details of manufacture of armament of all kinds, modern carriages of overy pattern, and the results attained by tests of guns, armor, and experimental emplacements.

An order that shuts out all foreign observers, in common with our own citizens, is manifestly incomplete when, at the end of each year, the annual volumes furnish thates as full as patent specifications, and details of every kind more comprehensive and acqurate than any foreign attaché could brepare if he should live in the works for a month.

It is therefore expected by those keeping note of the progress of departmental work that the next step will be to exclude from the annual reports, both of the army and the navy, every species of information which in time of war could not be communicated to an enemy. Under present methods these interesting volumes, which testify so fully to the splendid results attained by engineers, ordnance officers, and naval constructors, are, at the same time, crowded with information which, in time of war, could not be given to an enemy without incurring the death penalty.

This, when our guns have been developed by methods quite our own, until they are the best to be found, when our armor has reached a greater degree of resisting power than has been elsewhere attained, and our projectiles at the same time, possess the maximum power of penetration, is not as it should be. Hereafter, it is likely that all this information in its more important dealis will be held in the confidencial files, and be furnished to the Committees on Appropriations in entire confidence.

An offleer of the Bureau of Military Information being asked in r

circles.

The development of our torpedo system has been a sealed book from the start. This example is now to be followed with respect to visiting unilitary works. The reforms above alluded to are likely to be applied to the forthcoming analysis of the proper invortant subnual reports in some of the more important sul jects treated upon. H. V. Boynton.

THE PRESIDENT TO VISIT TROY. He Will Attend the Rounian of the Society of the Army of the Potomac.

TROY, Aug. 14.-President McKinley will attend the reunion of the Society of the Army of the Potomac in this city next week. The President is a member of the society, and is very eager to meet "the boys," as he told a visitor at Bluff Point the other day. Vice-President Hobart will also be here. The Presidential party will include the President and Mrs. McKinley Gen. Russell A. Alger, Mrs. Alger and Mits Alger, Col. John A. Porter, private secretary to the President; Mrs. Porter, and several other

distinguished persons,

The President will arrive here from Bluff Point on Friday morning, Aug. 20. He will not driven to the Troy House, where he will be the guest of the city. During the morning the President and members of his party will visit the collar factories. They are the largest in the world, and the President is very curious to learn something about the collar and cuff industry.

with proper regard to their relative importance, and in a mainer to secure marked advance at early point.

If you had a mainer to secure marked advance at the composition of the transfer of

THE GAME OF RAQUETTE. Seventy Players on a Sid —Revival of an Old

Sport in New Orleans,

Of late the game of raquette, which was once very popular in this city, and which is very generally played in many portions of the South, has been revived in New Orleans, although possibly a majority of the present generation, as far and this city is concerned, know little or nothing about it. That it is a game of Indian origin, any one who has seen the Canadian-Indian game any one who has seen the Canadian-Indian game of lacrosse will readily divine. It is essentially a game of skill and physical adaptability as opposed to science. The successful raquette player must be able to run well, dodgo eleverly, handle his raquettes skilfully, and catch and throw well with them. On the other hand, there appears to be very little of system in the play of even the best men in a team. The player must run fast, dodge quickly, and throw and catch strongly and accurately with his raquettes, but as for the rest of the play, it is mainly a series of scrambles or scrimmages, as the football player would call them.

The ground upon which the game has been re-

strongly and accurately with his raquettee, but as for the rest of the play, it is mainly a series of scrambles or scrimmages, as the football player would call them.

The ground upon which the game has been revived at City Park is elighty yards wide and probably over 175 yards long. The goals are about 150 yards apart, and they consist each of one tall, upright pole having a face of sheet zino some fourteen inches wide. The game played yesterday had seventy players on each side, Les Bayous wearing red and playing the ball toward the red goal, while Les Villes wore blue and played the ball to score on the blue goal.

The game does not seem to be at all an intricate one as far as scoring is concerned, there being no minor points, as in football. When the ball strikes the face of the blue goal a point is scored for the men wearing the blue uniform, while a similar contact with the red goal counts for the men in red, but nothing else counts. There is no limit to the number of goals to be won, but the side having the majority of "plots," as they are called, at the end of unreinfitent play for an hour and a half is declared the Winner.

The ball is of solid rubber and not as large as the tennis ball, and to handle it cach player has a pair of raquettes. These raquettes are about three feet long, each consisting of a stick or handle having a narrow wooden loop perhaps two and a half inches wide and six inches long at the end. This loop is made by shaving down and flattening the end of the hickory stock or handle until it has become pliable and elastic like a hoop about an inch and a half wide, and then bending it over until the end can be firmly attached to the handle to form the loop. Then this loop is made by shaving down and flattening the end of the hickory stock or rawhide drawn through it so that it will hold the ball. These raquettes are after the manner of a pair of luge forceps or blacksmith's tongs, except that they are not held together by any joint or rivet, and much of the skill of the player consists in wen as that of the raqueties to give it momen-tum. The ball must be handled only by the raqueties, and must not, under any circum-stances, be touched with the hands. When a player guins possession of the ball ine will run with it and, if possible, get a chance to throw it at his own goal, but if too closely pressed or per-haps tackled by some one of the opposing side, he will throw it toward his own goal and if pos-sible, give one of his own side a chance to eatch it and force it still further in the desired direc-tion.

sible, give one of his own side a chance to eatch it and force it still further in the desired direction.

As in football, the man who has the ball in his possession is reasonably sure to have trouble. In the language of the street arab, the members of the opposing team "don't do a thing to him." They will grab him and toes him high in the air without taking any reasonable care that he shall come down right side up, and should he fall to alight on his feet they will swarm over him like bees on a plum tree limb. Assuming that the fall had not shaken him so as to dispossess him of the ball the "swarming" process is reasonably sure to do so, and then it is that one sees one of the strikingly unique features of the game. The ball is lying in the grass and there are perhaps thirty players crowding around it, all trying to pick it up with their requertes. There is a ratting of sticks on the ground and high in the air, and one maccustomed to the game might be led to believe that there was a desperate fight in progrees, in the course of which the players were belaboring each other with their raqueties. As a matter of fact they do not intentionally hit or otherwise hurt each other, and although heads and shins are often bruised and cut, no hard feeling ner bad language is indulged in. They are all after the ball, and when one player gets the ball it is the business of the members of the opposing team to dispossess him of it before he can have a chance to throw it, and, as the lawyers would put it, "time being the essence of the contract," it often happens that amid the clashing of sticks heads and shins are cut in the hurry and confusion of play and not out of any malice or ill-humor.

These cuts and bruises are never very serious, as the racyettes with which they are indicated.

sion of play and not out of any malice or illhumor.

These cuts and bruises are never very serious,
as the raquettes with which they are inflicted
are too light to no serious injury. In fact, it is
authentically asserted by the "oldest inhabittant" that there was never a case of serious injury in a raquette game played in New Orleans,
except in one instance, and that was some fifteen
years ago, when a negro chewed the ear off an
indian. It is further asserted that the negroes
won that game.

These games are attracting immense crowds
to City Park, and it is safe to assert that not
less than 4,000 peo, le watched the play last
evening.

Placing an Order for Snakes.

From the Chicago Times Herald.

"Do you keep snakes?" she askel as she peered through her glasses at the parrots and guinea pigs in the bird store.

"I have a Glin monster and some chameleons, said the bird man.

"I don't think they would answer. You see what I want is a regular anake, one of the long field kind that are not poisonous. I may as well tell you that my husband has taken to drinking, and I want is a sake to put in his boots.

"If I were you," said the man, "I'd walt, and if he keeps on drinking he'll see snakes any-how."

if he keeps on drinking he'll see snakes any-how."

"No, he won't and he wouldn't care if he did if they weren't real. But if he sees alive snake he'll quit, and I'm going to try it on. Couldn't you get me some I'.

"Yee'm, I can fill an order. If you call around to morrow you can get the snakes, "no the man took down the address of his customer." It's a test case, he said as the woman went out, "and I feel sort of curious to know how it will turn out. My idea is that the husband will be so mad when he finds the snakes in his loots that he'll go out and get as drunk as a hiled owl, but maybe it will work the other way we hope it will."

Then he sent his boy out to hunt for snakes in the hedges and ditches of the prairie.



ECZEMA forms and matologist John H. Woodbury, 197 West 42 st. New York